

MOUNTAINEER'S WIFE ON TRIAL FOR PLOT TO KILL HIM

Lida Johnson Confessed Part
in Attack—Accomplice
Sent to Prison.

(Special From a Staff Correspondent of The
Evening World.)

NEW CITY, July 8.—Scores of mountaineers and their womenfolk who dwell in the wooded heights that stretch westward from Bear Mountain and only leave them on some great occasion, came to the Rockland County Court House to-day to attend the trial of Lida Johnson, one of their number, who is charged with the attempted murder of her husband, Fred. She is a woman of thirty-five, rugged in type as are all of the people of that primitive region, and with at least sufficient attractive features to captivate another man than her husband, who is fifty. The other man in the case is Ed Rose, a young fellow of twenty-eight. He has confessed to the murder and last evening was sentenced to Sing Sing by Judge Patterson for from five to ten years.

The story of the effort to do away with Johnson, as disclosed in the confessions which both Rose and Lida Johnson signed, as well as in the testimony brought out during Rose's trial, shows that these mountain people have a code of their own in domestic matters which is, to say the least, somewhat at variance with that prevailing in other sections of the State.

Johnson is employed by the Palisade Park Commission and Rose was his "handy man" and lived with him and his wife. Between the woman and Rose a friendship sprang up and grew into something else as the years went on. Three children came to the Johnson household. Then, in February last, the wife and Rose, so their confessions state, thought it time that Johnson be killed. For some reason or other he was at last in the way.

So, on Feb. 17, while he was driving through the woods some one took a potshot at him—and missed. Two

days later, while he was driving a logging team through the deep snow he was shot three times with a shotgun, each charge taking effect. But the tough mountaineer was destined to outlive the terrible wounds and somehow he was got home and attended to in time to save his life.

Living in the mountains about a mile away, busy with missionary work, was the Rev. Dr. Hurton Lee. To him word was brought of the attack on Johnson and he at once notified District Attorney Lexow, of Rockland County. On Feb. 20, Mr. Lexow and Dr. Lee started into the mountains. The snow was so deep as they progressed that they were six hours in making one mile of the journey.

They got to the settlement eventually and Dr. Lee, gaining the confidence of the mountaineers, learned that Lida Johnson and Ed Rose had planned to kill the woman's husband. They confronted her and Rose with this information. Mr. Lexow told her that if she did not confess and if her husband died she would be sent to the electric chair. This finally prevailed upon her and she told the story. Rose's confession came the

same day and both were taken to the jail at New City.

In her confession Mrs. Johnson said that she believed Rose to be the father of her last two children. But when Rose was put on the stand yesterday and asked if any of the children were his, he replied, "I guess all three are."

Johnson, during his testimony, declared that he saw no reason why he and Rose should be enemies and was at a loss to account for the shooting. Charles Blanchard, one of the mountaineers called as a witness, was asked by Mr. Lexow:

"Isn't it common talk in the mountains that Ed Rose runs around with Fred Johnson's wife?"

"Why, everybody does that kind of thing," was the reply, to which Blanchard added, "And I hear they do it in the city, too."

AUTO RING AND KUBAL SENTENCES DUE TUESDAY.

Justice Crosey to Fix Penalties for Many at Mincola.

Virtually all of the former Nazaru County officials and their alleged confederates convicted in connection with graft charges and the stolen automobile ring in the county, will be arraigned for

sentences before Supreme Court Justice Crosey in Mincola Tuesday, according to the District Attorney's office there.

At the same time, it is understood, Justice Crosey will impose sentence on Lawrence Kubal, convicted murderer of Mrs. Minnie Bartlett of West Hempstead. Those of the automobile ring to be sentenced are Carmen Plant, Thomas V. Barbut, Aubrey Pettit, Herbert F. Harvey, Salvatore Solano and William E. Hoffman.

BANK CLERK ACCUSED OF HAVING COUNTERFEITS.

His Wife Arrested in Store—Both Deny the Charges.

Walter Moran, twenty years old, a clerk in the Bowery Savings Bank, was arrested last night at his home at No. 185 Mercer Street, Jersey City, on a charge of possessing counterfeit money. His wife, Mrs. Anna Moran, twenty-one years old, had been ar-

rested in the afternoon in the store of Emil Stein, at No. 128 Newark Avenue, Jersey City.

Stein said Mrs. Moran made a fifty-nine-cent purchase, and gave a bad \$10 bill in payment. The bill, Stein said, had been raised from a one-dollar bill. Detective Michael Kelly, and Sergeant Service Agent Edward Connors, from the New York Custom House, went to the Moran's home and found, they said, the ends of a five-dollar bill, from which the figures had been removed, in a bureau drawer. Mrs. Moran said she received the ten-dollar bill from a woman friend, and Moran said he knew nothing whatever of the whole affair.

Falls Dead While Working on His Yacht.

(Special to The Evening World.) NEW LONDON, Conn., July 8.—While working on his sloop yacht Grace at Noank late yesterday Seth Shepard, thirty-three, a Washington, D. C., lawyer, dropped dead. His body fell in the Mystic River. He was a son of former Chief Justice Shepard of the Court of Appeals.

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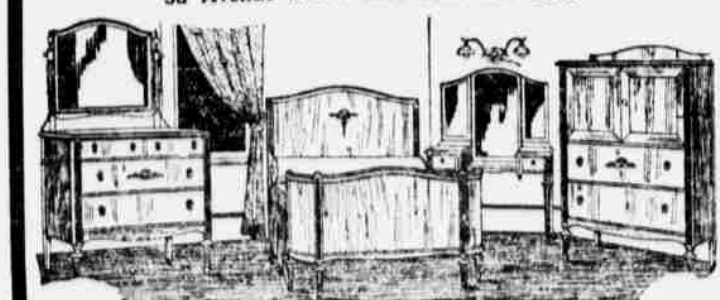
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—1 cup sugar, 1 egg white, 1/4 cup boiling water, 1 can grated or crushed pineapple. Boil sugar and water together until the syrup threads. Pour gradually on well beaten white. Beat until of right consistency to spread on cake. Drain the juice from the pineapple, spread the pineapple on the cake, then spread the boiled frosting.

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